

Message Text

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47

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 SSO-00 SCA-01 EB-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 PPT-02 FAA-00 DOTE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SS-20

DRC-01 /093 W

----- 009535

O 291255Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8257

AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 3495

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC ET US CA

SUBJ: DOWNED TENNECO AIRCRAFT

REF: OTTAWA 0913; ASMARA 203; ASMARA 206

1. LATE AFTERNOON MARCH 26 TENNECO HELICOPTER WAS REPORTED MISSING IN VERY BAD WEATHER IN AREA BETWEEN MASSAWA AND ASMARA. HELICOPTER HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY ACTIVITY. AIR AND GROUND SEARCH WAS BEGUN ON FOLLOWING DAY. ON MORNING MARCH 28 IT WAS CONFIRMED FROM AIR THAT HELICOPTER HAD LANDED SAFELY BUT HAD THEN BEEN BURNED OR DAMAGED. IT SEEMED VERY LIKELY THAT PASSENGERS WERE BEING HELD BY ERITREAN INSURGENTS OR BANDITS AT UNKNOWN LOCATION. TENNECO GENERAL MANAGER ED BURTCHAE LL THEREFORE WITHDREW SEARCH PATROL IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBILITY OF ARMED CONFRONTATION. ANNOUNCEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE ON ASMARA RADIO REQUESTING INFORMATION ON MISSING PARTY. EFFORTS ALSO BEING MADE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON MISSING PARTY FROM VILLAGES AND FARMERS IN AREA.

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2. WE HAVE OBTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING THOSE

IN HELICOPTER: (1) WILLIAM CASY (AMCIT), WHOSE WIFE IN ASMARA FULLY INFORMED; (2) WILLIAM ROGERS (AMCIT), WHOSE WIFE IN ASMARA FULLY INFORMED; (3) DON WEDERFORT (CANADIAN CITIZEN), PILOT, HEAD OF CANADIAN HELICOPTER COMPANY CONWEST, WHOSE WIFE IN CANADA HAS BEEN NOTIFIED BY CONWEST PEOPLE IN ETHIOPIA; (4) CLIFF JAMES (CANADIAN CITIZEN), WHOSE WIFE IN ADDIS HAS BEEN INFORMED BY TENNECO; AND (5) AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME AND NATIONALITY WE HOPE TO DETERMINE SHORTLY.

3. WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING CANADIAN EMBASSY HERE INFORMED AS INFORMATION REACHES US.
WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: CASC, ET, US, CA, (CASEY, WILLIAM), (ROGERS, WILLIAM), (WEDERFORT, DON), (JAMES, CLIFF)
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
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